Clearance of Power Projects with U.S. Cooperation

3470. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any power projects being raised with U.S. cooperation in India were held up as a result of imposition of sanctions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the stage at which the same stands;

(c) whether with the recent visit of U.S. President any decision to carry ahead these projects have been taken; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) There are no power projects being raised in India with U.S. Government Cooperation. In so far as private sector power projects are concerned, none of the projects having investment by US based companies are reported to have been held up on account of sanctions.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Need of Technology Change in Power Plants

3471. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are of the view that there was a need to make a quantum leap towards changing technology of our power plants in the country to be able to use its fuel efficiently and achieve sustainable development; and

(b) if so, what are Government plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government is seized of the need to consider induction of new technology to improve the plant efficiency. Recently, Government of India have accorded approval for installing 3 x 660 MW capacity at Sipat with super critical parameters which will improve the plant efficiency, thus resulting in reduction in fuel requirement and environmental pollution. Further, with the introduction of advanced class gas turbines by leading manufacturers, it is possible to get higher efficiencies of the range of 52-55%. Achieving higher efficiency through combined cycle plans not only conserves fuel but also benefits environment from reduced green house gases emissions.